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SERIAL:
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              CHINA (CH); SAUDI ARABIA (SA).
COUNTRY:
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SUBJ: IIR
                                 <sup>300</sup>(6)(2)
SAUDI ARABIA
              THIS IS AN INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED
WARNING:
INTELLIGENCE.
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REQS -

SOURCE: Deleted per 5 U.S.C. 552(b)(1)

SUMMARY: THIS REPORT PROVIDES INFORMATION ON A POSSIBLE MILITARY BUSINESS ACTIVITY CONDUCTED BY AN OFFICE OF CHINESE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE IN SAUDI ARABIA.

1. ON 1 JUNE 1989, A BRANCH OFFICE (TN: IT BELIEVED TO BE A REPRESENTATIVE'S OFFICE) OF THE CHINESE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE OFFICIALLY OPENED AND BEGAN ACTIVITY IN RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA. BRANCH OFFICE HAS NOT DISPLAYED A CHINESE FLAG ON ITS OFFICE GROUND, BUT A NAME PLATE IN CHINESE AND ENGLISH WAS DISPLAYED ON A POST OF THE GATE. THE INSCRIPTION WAS AS FOLLOWS -- "COMMERCIAL REPRESENTATIVES OFFICE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA." SINCE, ALL THE FOREIGN ESTABLISHMENTS IN SAUDI ARABIA ARE REQUIRED TO DISPLAY AN ARABIC LANGUAGE NAME PLATE, THERE WAS TALK IN RIYADH, THAT THE NON-ARABIC LANGUAGE NAME PLATE WAS AUTHORIZED BY THE SAUDI ARABIAN GOVERNMENT. A LICENSE PLATES OF A VEHICLE REGISTERED TO THE CHINESE OFFICE WAS GREEN IN COLOR AND DISPLAYED THE NUMBER "99". REPORTEDLY, FEW VISAS WERE ISSUED TO SAUDI ARABIANS FOR POSSIBLE MILITARY NEGOTIATIONS IN CHINA FROM THIS BRANCH OFFICE PRIOR TO THE OFFICIAL OPENING ON 1 JUNE. COMMENTS:

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